

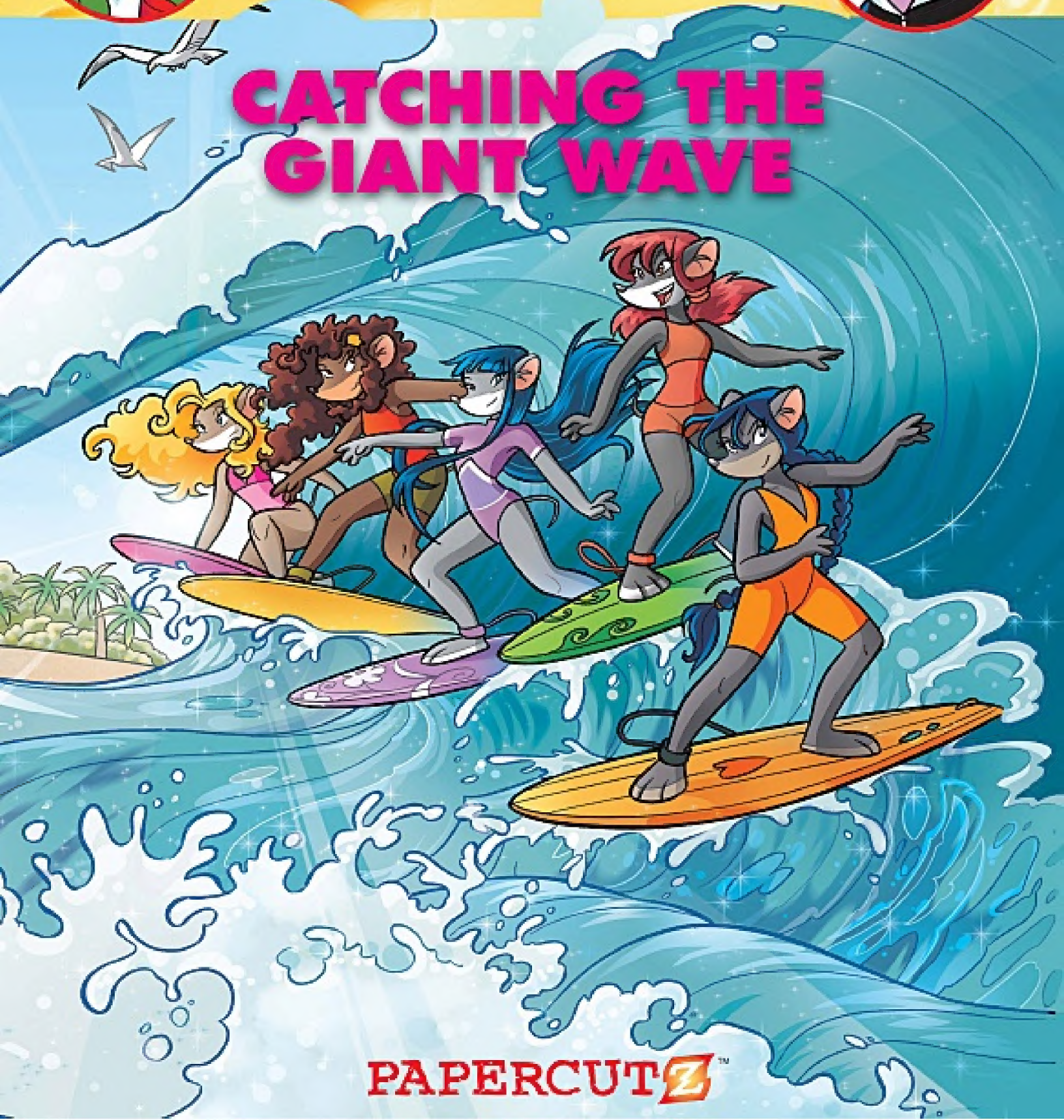
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Thea Stilton



CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE



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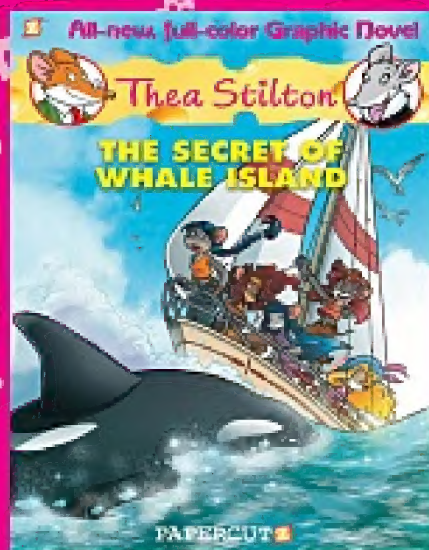
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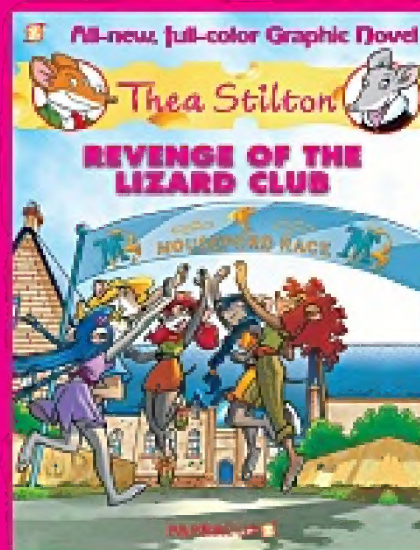
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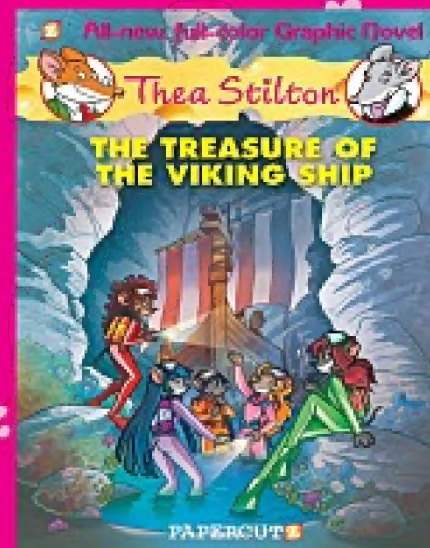
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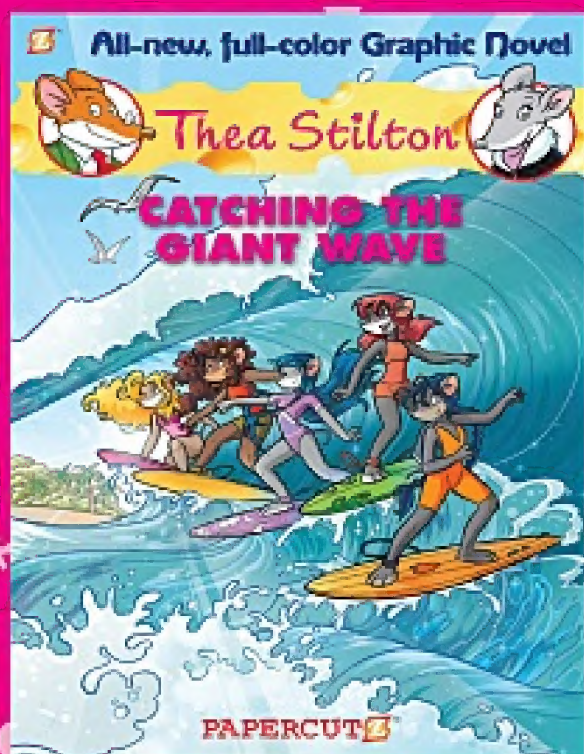
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Thea Stilton

CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE

By Thea Stilton



THEA STILTON #4
CATCHING THE GIANT WAVE
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FINALLY A LOVELY DAY OF
SUN ON *Whale Island!*
NICKY JUMPS AT THE
CHANCE TO TEACH PAMELA
AND PAULINA HOW TO SURF.



THE ROUGH, CHOPPY SEA AT
VERY WINDY POINT CALLS TO
HER IRRESISTIBLY-- SINCE
SHE'S USED TO THE OCEAN
WAVES OF AUSTRALIA!



DON'T STIFFEN UP, PAM!
LOOSE LEGS AND
AN IRON WILL!

PULVERIZED
PISTONS!

LOOK, VIOLET!
PAM'S FACING HER
FIRST WAVE!



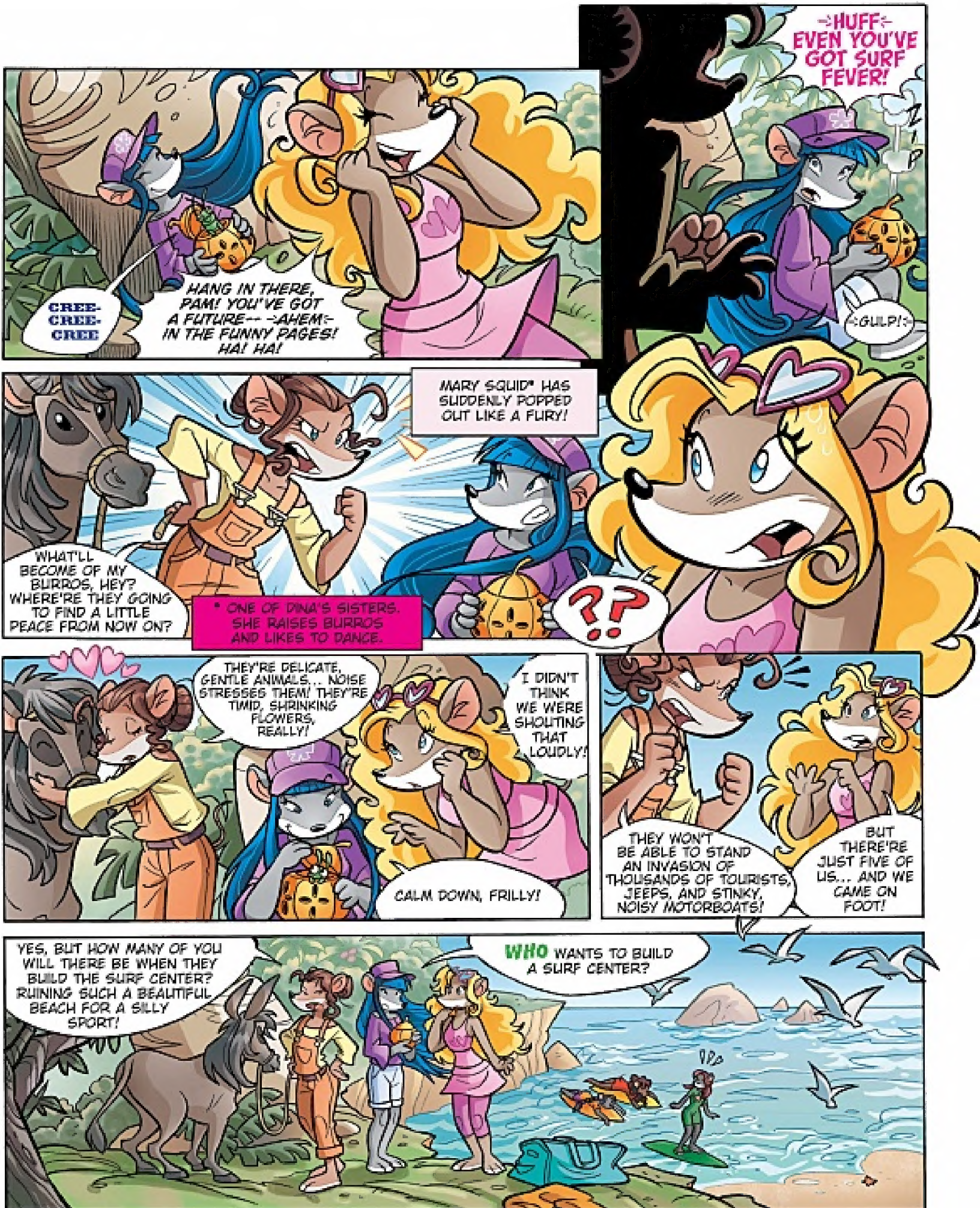
BEH--
GLUB!

FWOOSH



~SPLUT!~

HAI HAI HAI!
YOU LOOK LIKE
A SEAL, PAM!
HEE! HEE!



CREE-
CREE-
CREE

HANG IN THERE,
PAM! YOU'VE GOT
A FUTURE--- -AH-
IN THE FUNNY PAGES!
HA! HA!

MARY SQUID* HAS
SUDDENLY POPPED
OUT LIKE A FURY!

* ONE OF DINA'S SISTERS.
SHE RAISES BURROS
AND LIKES TO DANCE.

??

THEY'RE DELICATE,
GENTLE ANIMALS... NOISE
STRESSES THEM! THEY'RE
TIMID, SHRINKING
FLOWERS, REALLY!

I DIDN'T
THINK
WE WERE
SHOUTING
THAT LOUDLY!

CALM DOWN, FRILLY!

THEY WON'T
BE ABLE TO STAND
AN INVASION OF TOURISTS,
JEEPS, AND STINKY,
NOISY MOTORBOATS!

BUT
THERE'RE
JUST FIVE OF
US... AND WE
CAME ON
FOOT!

YES, BUT HOW MANY OF YOU
WILL THERE BE WHEN THEY
BUILD THE SURF CENTER?
RUINING SUCH A BEAUTIFUL
BEACH FOR A SILLY
SPORT!

WHO WANTS TO BUILD
A SURF CENTER?

MARY HEARD ABOUT THE NEW CENTER FROM HER SISTER DINA. SO THE THEA SISTERS DECIDE TO GET THE EXPLANATION STRAIGHT FROM HER...

IT'S THE MAYOR'S INITIATIVE! HE WANTS TO COMPETE WITH VISSIA DE VISSEN AND HER SURF CLUB.

REALLY?!

I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO THE MAYOR IS...

THEY JUST ELECTED HIM! IT'S ROMEO, VINCE GUYMOUSE'S COUSIN!

OH, THE OWNER OF THE RESTAURANT "CHEZ ROMEO!"

REALLY A NICE FUTURE!

ROMEO EXAGGERATES, BUT HE'S NOT BAD.

THE OLD CITY COUNCIL WAS AN OUTDATED INSTITUTION! THE ISLAND NEEDS A **MODERN** ADMINISTRATION!

ROMEO'S TRAVELLED THE WORLD! HE'S SEEN HOW THINGS WORK ELSEWHERE! AND NOW THAT HE'S BACK, HE WANTS TO "LAUNCH OUR ISLAND INTO THE FUTURE!"... OR AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT HE SAYS...

BUT WHY ELECT HIM, PRECISELY?

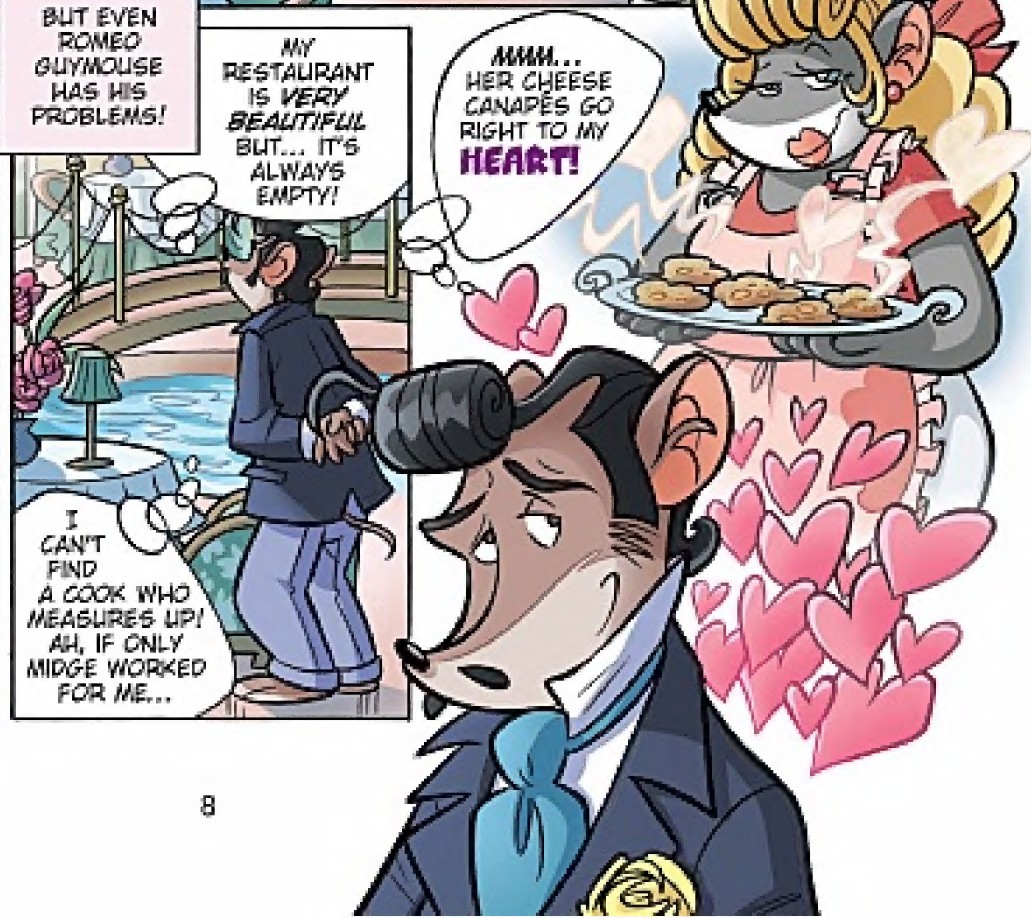
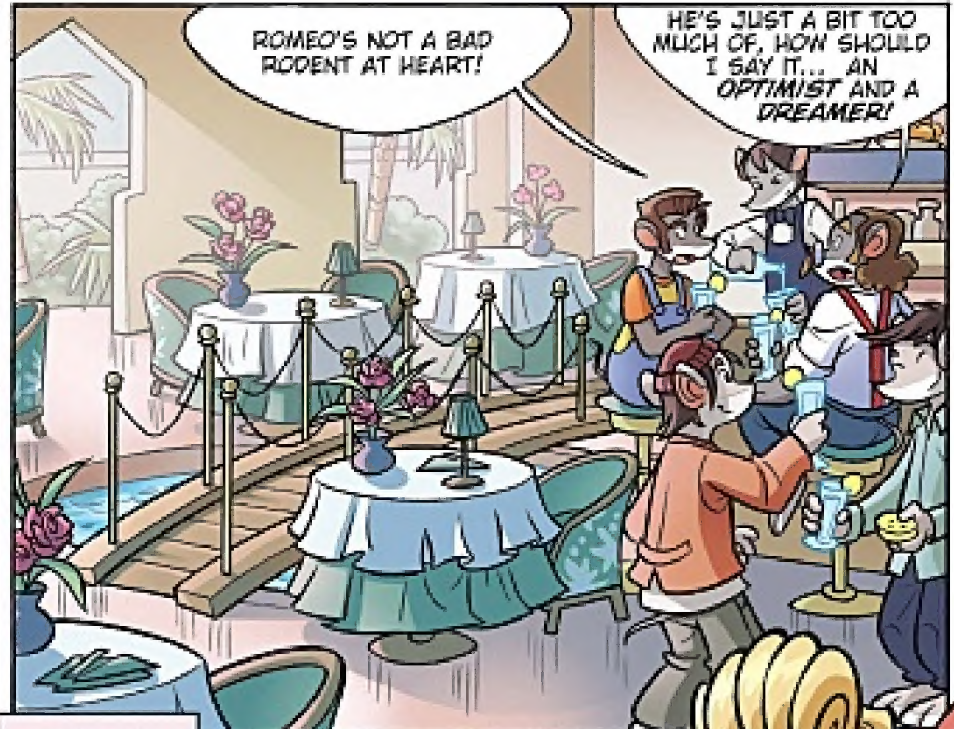
NO ONE ELSE WANTED TO TAKE ON THE JOB!

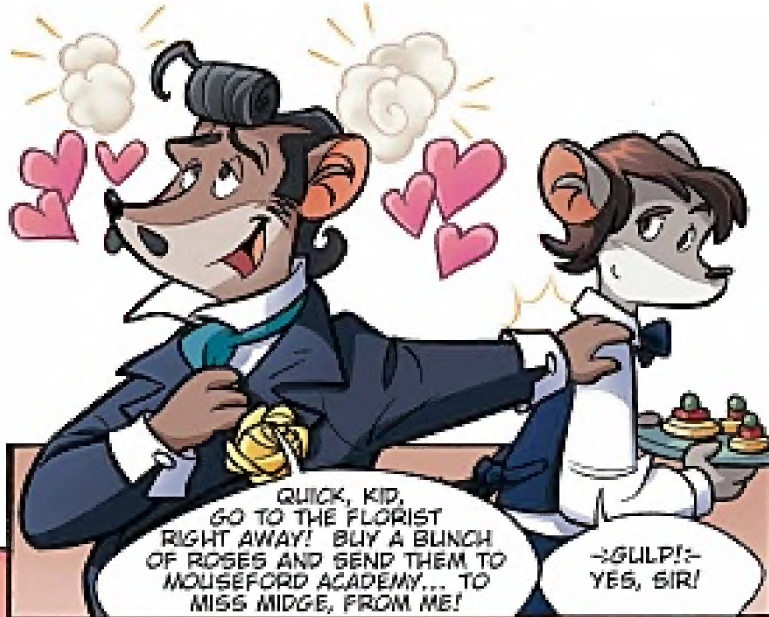
"ROMEO GUYMOUSE IS A MAYOR WITH LOTS OF IDEAS AND INITIATIVES!"

WE'LL TRANSFORM WHALE ISLAND INTO A PARADISE FOR THE RICH FROM AROUND THE WORLD!

IF ONLY RICH FOLKS STAY HERE, WHERE'LL OUR FISHERMEN GO?

EXCLUSIVE HOTELS! ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY! VERY DISTINGUISHED CLIENTELE!





QUICK, KID,
GO TO THE FLORIST
RIGHT AWAY! BUY A BUNCH
OF ROSES AND SEND THEM TO
MOUSEFORD ACADEMY... TO
MISS MIDGE, FROM ME!

-GULP!-
YES, SIR!



HEY! WHO WANTS
TO ASK FOR THE
HAND OF YOUR
DAUGHTER
MIDGE?

-HMPH!-



VISSIA DE VISSEN'S
DREAMS ARE MUCH
MORE PRACTICAL
THAN ROMEO'S...

MY SURF
CLUB OPENS IN
A WEEK! THE
MOST LUXURIOUS
IN THE WORLD!



AND THIS
IS JUST THE
BEGINNING! NOW
IT'S TIME TO **EXPAND**
MY RANGE OF OPERATIONS!



WELCOME,
MR. MAYOR!



WHAT'S THE MAYOR DOING ON VISSIA'S YACHT?

MY FELLOW CITIZENS ARE TRADITIONALISTS. PROJECTS LIKE THIS ALARM THEM! I DON'T KNOW IF...

TSK! STILL HESITATING?!



SO, MY DEAR ROMEO, WILL THERE BE A SURF CENTER ON DONKEY BEACH OR NOT?



COUGH! COUGH!- THERE'LL BE ONE! COUGH!- THERE'LL BE ONE.

I JUST SHELLED OUT BILLIONS TO MAKE WHISKEY ISLAND INTO THE MOST EXCLUSIVE, SURFING-EST RESORT IN THE WORLD!

I EVEN HAD A REEF BUILT SO THE WAVES WILL BE PERFECT YEAR ROUND!



BUT MY ISLAND WILL ONLY HOUSE A FEW PRIVILEGED PEOPLE! MASS TOURISM IS WHAT WILL BRING IN BIG PROFITS!



THAT'S WHY I WANT YOU TO BUILD A SURF CENTER ON WHISKEY ISLAND! TO HOUSE THE CROWDS OF TOURISTS... WHO WILL BRING IN SO MUCH MONEY!

YES. AHEM... OF COURSE!

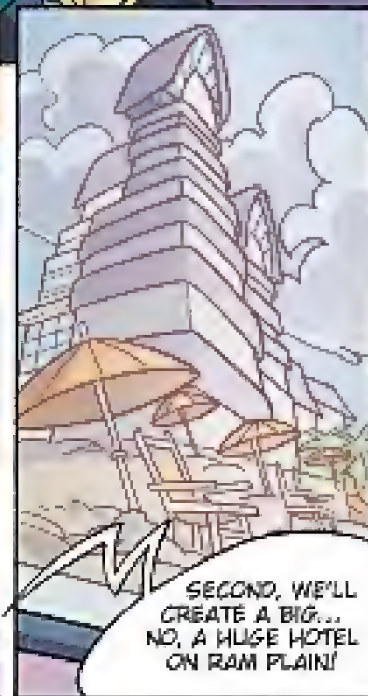


I HAD MY EXPERTS DRAW UP PLANS!

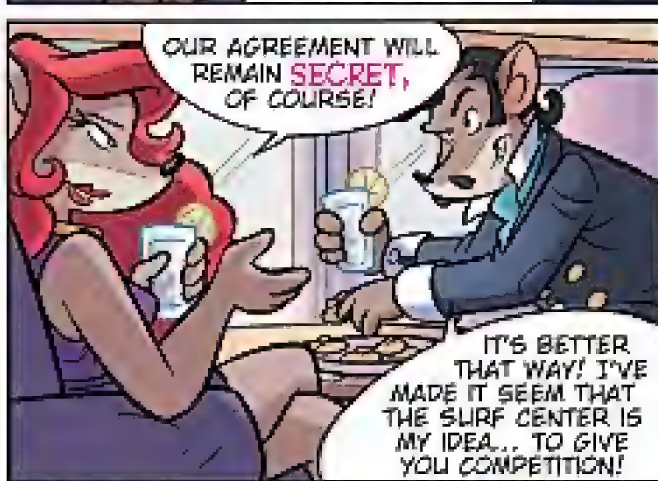
ALAN, THE SLIDES!



FIRST, WE'LL CONSTRUCT AN ARTIFICIAL REEF HERE, TOO!



SECOND, WE'LL CREATE A BIG... NO, A HUGE HOTEL ON RAM PLAIN!







HEY?!
WHAT'S
GOTTEN
INTO
YOU? AND
WHAT'S
UP WITH
NICKY?

GARY MOON'S
THE AUSTRALIAN
SURFING CHAMPION!
NICKY'S OBSESSED WITH
HIM... DIDN'T YOU KNOW?

OH, NOW I GET IT!
HE'S THE GUY ON
THE POSTER IN
HER ROOM!

WHAT AN AWFUL BLOW,
TO FIND OUT HE'LL BE
VANILLA'S GUEST.
POOR NICKY!



WHY WOULD GARY
CARE ABOUT A FLIRT
LIKE VANILLA?

WOW!
HE'S REALLY
CUTE!



DO YOU WANT ME TO
GET HIS AUTOGRAPH,
NICKY?

OH, PAM,
THAT WOULD BE
FANTASTIC!



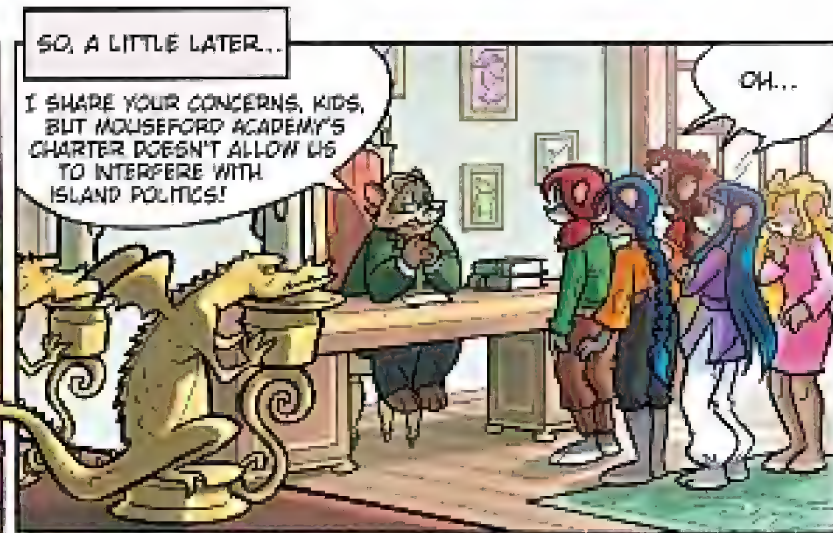
LEAVE IT
TO AN EXPERT!
YOU'LL SEE, I'LL
EVEN MANAGE
TO GET YOU A
DEDICATION!



AND THE REFERENDUM? DID YOU FORGET ABOUT IT, KIDS? WE'VE GOT TO SEE THAT THE MAYOR'S PLAN DOESN'T PASS!

RIGHT! BUT, HOW?

LET'S ASK THE HEADMASTER...



SO, A LITTLE LATER...

I SHARE YOUR CONCERNS, KIDS, BUT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY'S CHARTER DOESN'T ALLOW US TO INTERFERE WITH ISLAND POLITICS!

OH...



YOU'RE SO WELL RESPECTED ON THE ISLAND...

I'M SORRY, BUT MY PAWS ARE TIED!



SO, WHO CAN HELP US NOW?

PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN WILL CERTAINLY LEND US A PAW!

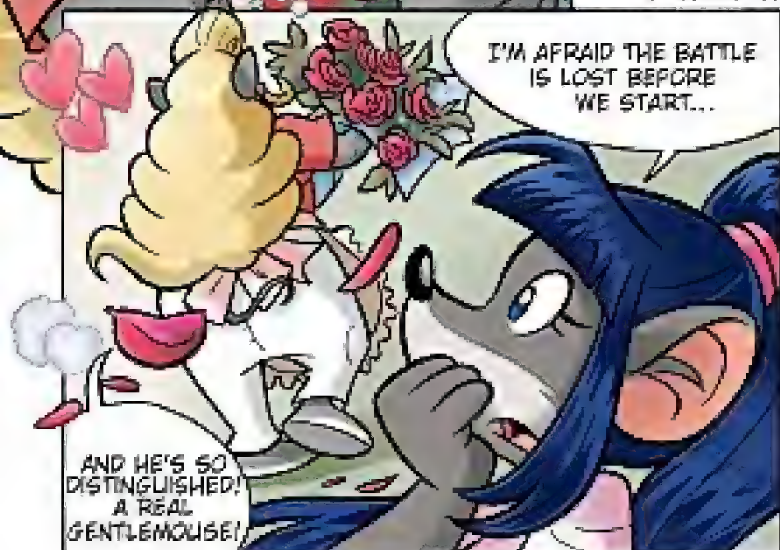
YES, BUT HIS LANGUAGE IS TOO... TECHNICAL.

YOU MEAN, NO ONE CAN UNDERSTAND HIM!



ROMEO GUYMOUSE, ON THE OTHER HAND, SURE KNOWS HOW TO GET PEOPLE TO LISTEN!

YOU'RE RIGHT! OUR MAYOR'S A GREAT SPEAKER!



I'M AFRAID THE BATTLE IS LOST BEFORE WE START...

AND HE'S SO DISTINGUISHED! A REAL GENTLEMUSE!



NO, NO, AND ONCE AGAIN, NO! OUR BATTLE ISN'T LOST. OUR BATTLE IS **RIGHTEOUS!**

"AGREED. PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN ISN'T A GREAT SPEAKER, BUT HE CAN ALWAYS LEND US A PAW."

I'M WITH YOU, KIDS!

ENCLOSED SPACES AREN'T SO GOOD FOR ME... THE LAST TIME WAS TORTURE...

THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO INSPECT THE ARTIFICIAL REEF.

UHM... THE SUBMERSIBLE IS SO TINY AND I...

FIRST OF ALL, LET'S GO SEE WHAT MS. DE VISSEN HAS DONE TO THE SEA FLOOR.

DON'T WORRY, NICKY! WE DON'T ALL NEED TO GO!

I'LL STAY ON DRY LAND WITH YOU!

I DON'T WANT TO GO UNDERWATER EITHER. THE HUMIDITY WILL MAKE MY HAIR ALL FRIZZY!

TAKE THE KEY TO MY ATV! GO SEE WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TOWN!

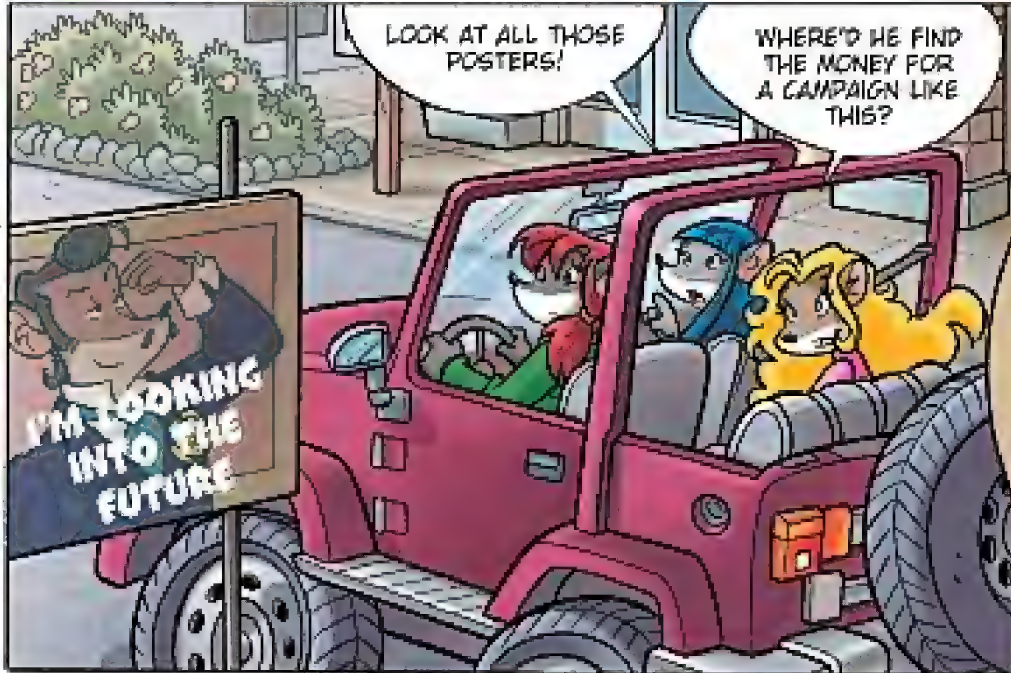
HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING IN TOWN!

HEAD INTO THE FUTURE WITH ROMNEY

CAREENING KANGAROOS! THE MAYOR'S DOING THINGS IN **STYLE!**

HEAD INTO THE FUTURE WITH ROMNEY

HEAD INTO THE FUTURE WITH ROMNEY



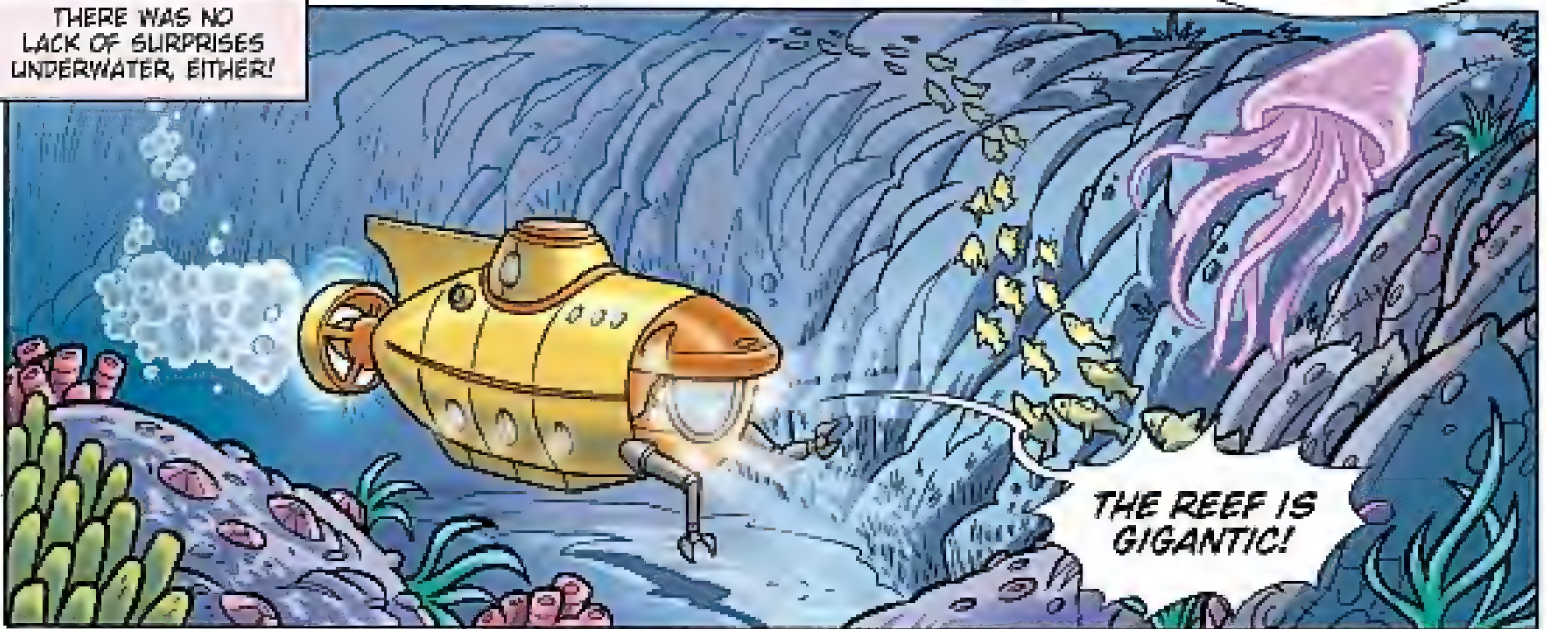
LOOK AT ALL THOSE POSTERS!

WHERE'D HE FIND THE MONEY FOR A CAMPAIGN LIKE THIS?



YOU KNOW WHAT I SAY? I SMELL A RAT HERE!

THERE WAS NO LACK OF SURPRISES UNDERWATER, EITHER!



THE REEF IS GIGANTIC!



WHAT'S THAT THING MADE OF, PROFESSOR?

THEY'RE ENORMOUS SACKS OF SAND, PAM! BUT IT'S TOO BIG. I CAN'T FIGURE OUT ITS EXACT CONFIGURATION.



WE COULD TAKE PICTURES OF IT AND **MEASURE IT!**

YOU'RE RIGHT, PAULINA! THAT WILL SERVE AS ACCURATE DOCUMENTATION! THEN I'LL CONTACT SOME EXPERTS ABOUT IT!

THAT EVENING, AFTER RETURNING FROM THEIR RESPECTIVE "MISSIONS," THE THEA SISTERS WERE SUMMONED TO THE ACADEMY'S GREAT HALL, ALONG WITH ALL THE OTHER STUDENTS...

HERE'S A NICE ANNOUNCEMENT! WE'VE BEEN INVITED TO MS. DE VISSSEN'S FOR THE OPENING OF THE SURF CLUB ON WINDY ISLAND!

THE FESTIVITIES WILL LAST THE ENTIRE WEEKEND!

YEAH!

HURRAY FOR VANILLA!

HURRAY FOR VIC!

HI VIC! UM... CAN I TALK TO YOU?

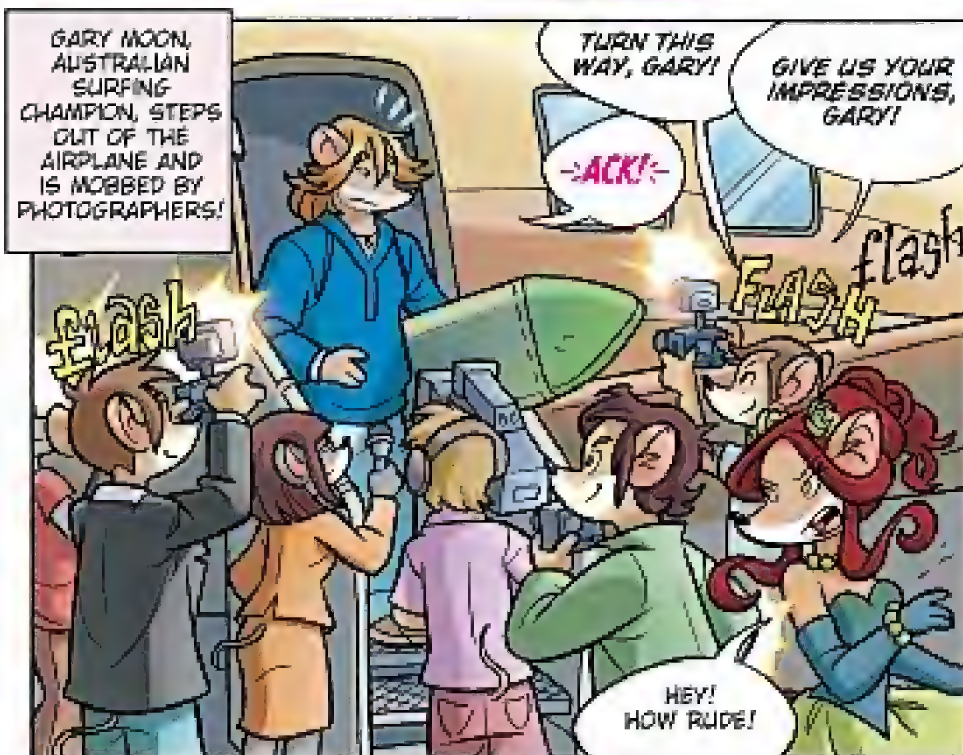
TALK TO ME? WHAT AN HONOR, MISS PAMELA!

I'D LIKE TO ASK A FAVOR OF YOU... UM, IF I MIGHT!

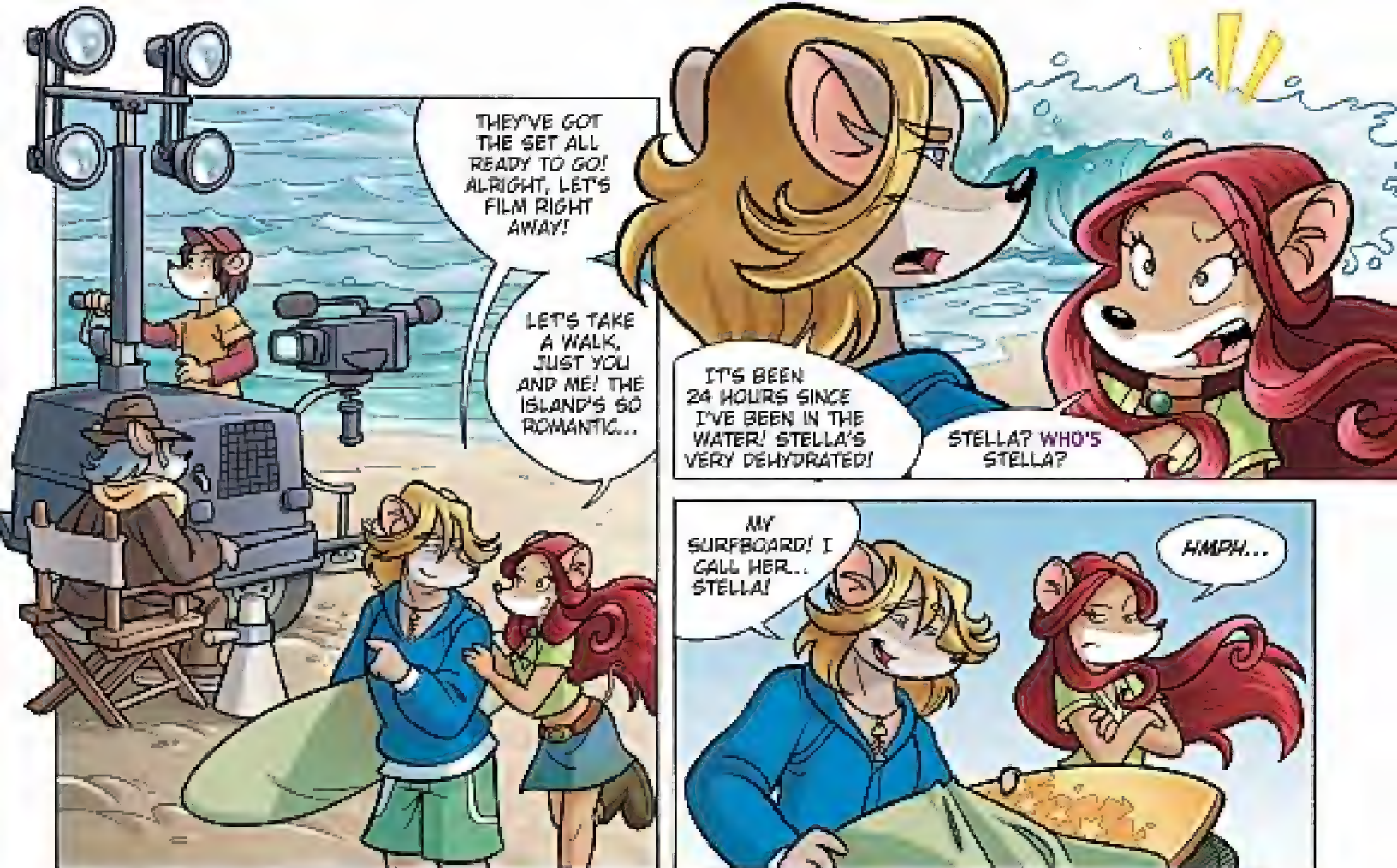
SOMETHING **SECRET!** I'M INTRIGUED. SPIT IT OUT!

OH, FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE! NICKY ADORES SURFING AND IS A FAN OF GARY MOON... PERHAPS YOU COULD...

... TEAR HIM OUT OF MY SISTER'S CLUTCHES SO SHE CAN MEET HIM? WELL, IT WON'T BE EASY, BUT I'LL TRY!









IN THE EVENING, THE LUXURIOUS *SURF CLUB* COMES ALIVE WITH GUESTS FOR THE OPENING...

WHAT LUXURY!

FLASH!

FLASH!

WHAT A MAGNIFICENT BUFFET!

WOW!
SO MANY PEOPLE!

BUT WHERE'D THEY
HIDE WONDERFUL
GARY?

LOOK FOR
VANILLA AND YOU'RE
SURE TO FIND HIM...

COME ON, NICKY!
DON'T BE SO SHY...
HE'S JUST A GUY!

HEY, THERE! YOU
FINALLY GOT HERE!

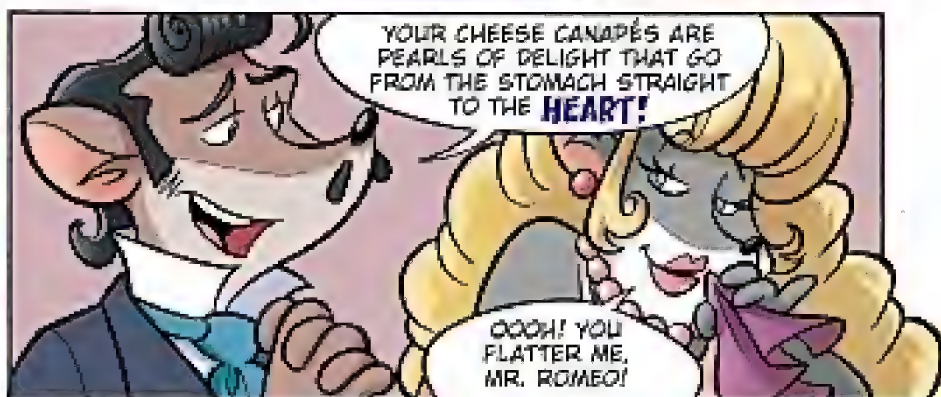
WHY? WERE
YOU WAITING
FOR US?

COME WITH ME, NICKY!
VANILLA'S
MOVED AWAY... WE HAVE
TO TAKE ADVANTAGE
OF IT!

HUH?!

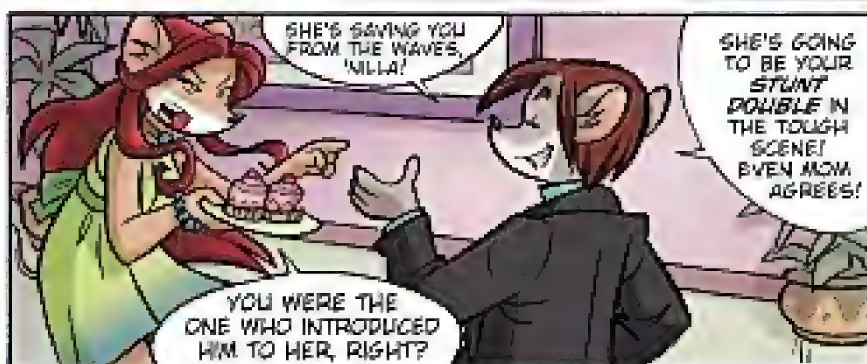
HEY!
WHERE'RE
YOU TAKING
HER?!







THE EVENING STILL
HAS OTHER SURPRISES
IN STORE!





THE NEXT DAY,
NICKY AND GARY
RIDE THE WAVES
TOGETHER...

HE'S RESERVED:
HE DOESN'T LIKE
CROWDS AND ONLY
FEELS AT EASE ON
HIS SURFBOARD...

I'LL
LEAD YOU,
NICKY!
TRUST ME!

... BUT IT DOESN'T
TAKE MANY WORDS
TO KNOW THEY BOTH
LIKE THE SAME
THINGS!

THANKS,
VIC!

DON'T MENTION IT!
AGGRAVATING VANILLA
IS MY FAVORITE
SPORT!

→HMPH!←

DON'T
WORRY! KEEP
IN MIND, YOU'LL BE
GARY'S GUIDE FOR THE
WHOLE DAY TOMORROW!

NO SCHOOL
TOMORROW?
OH, MOM,
YOU'RE
GREAT!

SMILE

I'VE PLANNED
EVERYTHING, BECAUSE
PAYING ATTENTION TO EVERY
DETAIL LEADS TO PERFECTION!
EVEN MY WAVES ARE WORKING
WONDERFULLY!

BEAUTIFUL WAVES BUT... PERHAPS A BIT TOO BIG FOR A CALM DAY!

HELLO, ENGINEER O'CONNOR! DID YOU GET THE MEASUREMENTS FOR THE WINDY ISLAND REEF?

YES, PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN. I GOT THEM BUT... THEY'RE ALL WRONG!

I ASSURE YOU, THEY'RE EXACT TO THE MILLIMETER!

IMPOSSIBLE! I DREW UP THE PLANS MYSELF... ALTHOUGH I DIDN'T WATCH THE CONSTRUCTION WORK AFTERWARDS.

THE MEASUREMENTS YOU SENT ARE ROUGHLY DOUBLE NINE!

OBVIOUSLY, THEY MODIFIED THE PLANS!

THAT'S ABSURD! INSANE! AN ARTIFICIAL REEF THAT BIG WILL CAUSE A DISASTER! WE MUST TEAR IT DOWN IMMEDIATELY!

UNDER THE STARRY SKY, THOSE DANGEROUS WAVES SEEM PERFECT TO NICKY AND GARY AFTER A DAY OF FILMING...

AND THIS MOMENT IN THEIR LIVES ALSO SEEMS PERFECT!

THAT SHOULD BE GARY AND ME! YOU'LL PAY FOR THIS, NICKY!

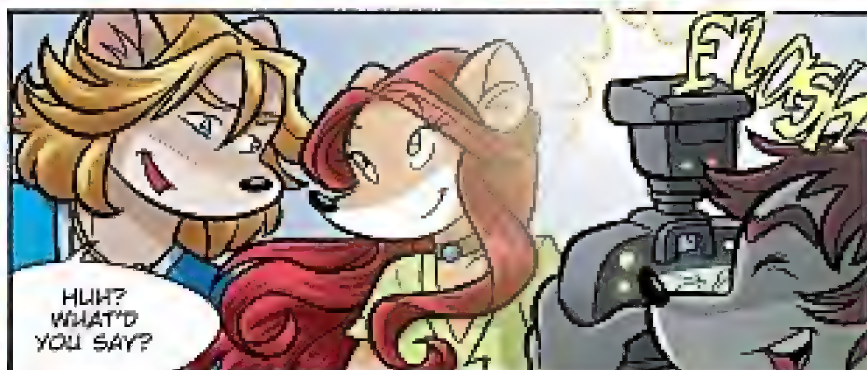
ON MONDAY MORNING, IT WAS HARD FOR NICKY TO GET BACK TO FOCUSING ON HER STUDIES...



AND EVEN GARY HAS HIS HEAD IN THE CLOUDS! HE LETS HIMSELF BE DRAGGED AROUND WHALE ISLAND, BUT HE DOESN'T SEE ANYTHING THAT'S GOING ON AROUND HIM!



SMILE FOR THE PHOTOGRAPHERS, GARY!



HUH? WHAT'D YOU SAY?

VISSIA PLANNED OUT THE CHAMPION'S EVERY STEP...



GARY MOON! WELCOME TO WHALE ISLAND!

... IN AGREEMENT WITH JACK CAMERON, HIS AGENT!





TIME PASSES VERY SLOWLY AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY AS NICKY WAITS FOR THE HOUR OF THEIR DATE TO ARRIVE...



~OOF!~ ROMEO GLYMOUSE WILL GET LOADS OF VOTES, JUST FROM GARY'S APPEARANCE!



IT'S ALL PUBLICITY IN FAVOR OF THE SURF CENTER!

DO YOU LIKE OUR SEA, GARY? IS IT ALRIGHT FOR SURFING?



OH, IT'S REALLY MAGNIFICENT!

DID YOU CATCH THAT? NOW EVERYONE WILL THINK HE SUPPORTS THE MAYOR'S PROJECT!



BUT GARY DOESN'T KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT IT! HE JUST GOT HERE FROM AUSTRALIA!

WHEN YOU'RE FAMOUS, YOU HAVE TO PAY ATTENTION TO WHAT YOU SAY!



GARY ONLY SAID THAT THE SEA IS GORGEOUS... AND IT'S TRUE!

WHAT A CUTE COUPLE! THEY'RE REALLY MADE FOR EACH OTHER!

HE'S FALLEN FOR HER! YOU CAN READ IT IN HIS FACE!



HUH?

SOME PICTURES HURT MORE THAN ANY WORDS...



HE'S BEEN PLAYING ME FOR A FOOL!



SOB!

NICKY!



COME ON, OPEN UP!

KNOCK KNOCK

DON'T DO THIS, NICKY!



LEAVE HER ALONE! SHE NEEDS TO LET OFF SOME STEAM!

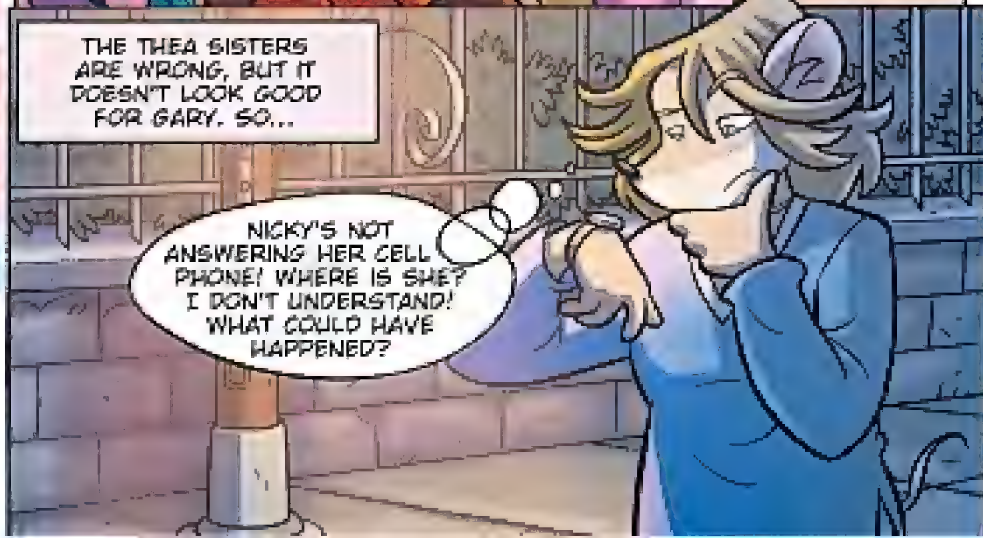
WHAT A CAD!

CHAMPIONS ARE USED TO HAVING GIRLS THROW THEMSELVES AT THEM!

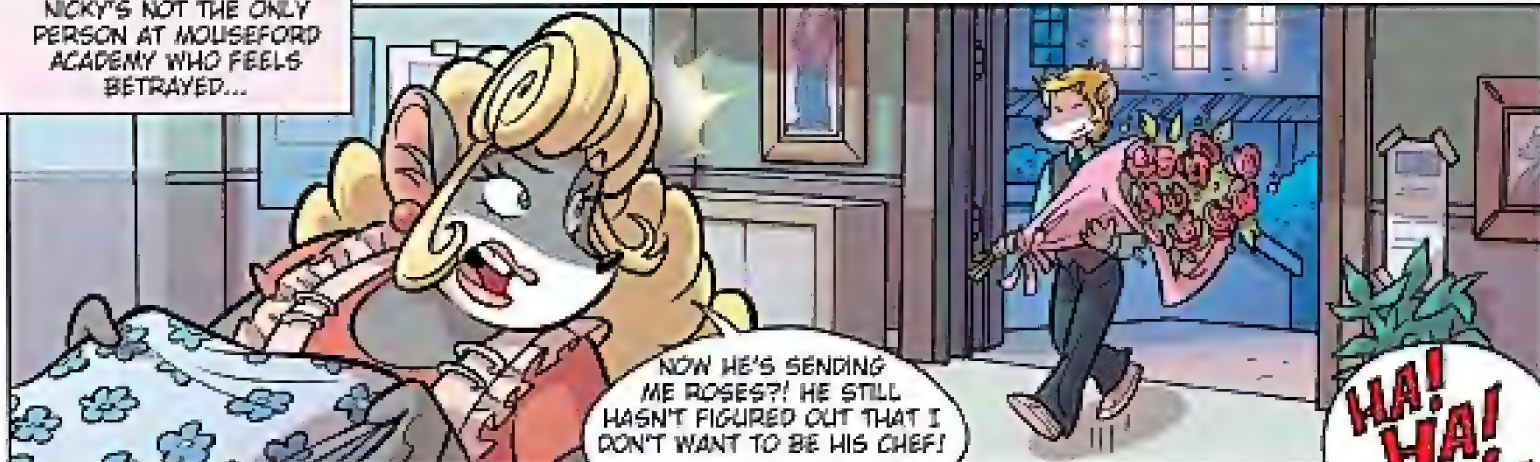


THE THEA SISTERS ARE WRONG, BUT IT DOESN'T LOOK GOOD FOR GARY. SO...

NICKY'S NOT ANSWERING HER CELL PHONE! WHERE IS SHE? I DON'T UNDERSTAND! WHAT COULD HAVE HAPPENED?



NICKY'S NOT THE ONLY PERSON AT MOUSEFORD ACADEMY WHO FEELS BETRAYED...



THE NEXT MORNING, THE SKIES ARE COVERED WITH CLOUDS, JUST LIKE NICKY'S HEART...

WHY'D HE LEAD ME ON LIKE THAT?

THE NEXT MORNING, THE SKIES ARE COVERED WITH CLOUDS, JUST LIKE NICKY'S HEART...

WHY'D HE LEAD ME ON LIKE THAT?

AND LIKE GARY'S HEART...

SHE DIDN'T COME AND SHE DIDN'T CALL ME!

WOOSH!!

SPLASH!!

AND LIKE GARY'S HEART...

SHE DIDN'T COME AND SHE DIDN'T CALL ME!

WOOSH!!

SPLASH!!

THE WIND IS BLOWING HARD AND THE WAVES ARE HUGE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU EVEN WANT TO GO IN THE WATER IN THIS WEATHER?

OF COURSE! TODAY'S THE PERFECT DAY FOR DOING STUNTS!

THE WIND IS BLOWING HARD AND THE WAVES ARE HUGE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU EVEN WANT TO GO IN THE WATER IN THIS WEATHER?

OF COURSE! TODAY'S THE PERFECT DAY FOR DOING STUNTS!

THE WIND IS BLOWING HARD AND THE WAVES ARE HUGE!

ARE YOU SURE YOU EVEN WANT TO GO IN THE WATER IN THIS WEATHER?


OF COURSE! TODAY'S THE PERFECT DAY FOR DOING STUNTS!

DON'T GET TOO FAR FROM THE SHORE, KID! SQUALLS COME ON SUDDENLY HERE!

WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO BE SURFING THE WAVES

DON'T GET TOO FAR FROM THE SHORE, KID! SQUALLS COME ON SUDDENLY HERE!

WHAT I WOULDN'T GIVE TO BE SURFING THE WAVES



AROUND PEOPLE, HE FEELS
AWKWARD. OTHER KIDS
MAKE HIM FEEL INSECURE.
BUT THE WAVES DON'T
SCARE HIM AT ALL...

HE'S SO GOOD!
IT'S AS IF HE'S
BARELY SKIMMING
THE SURFACE OF
THE WATER!

OH, NO... THAT
WAVE IS GIGANTIC!
LOOK OUT, GARY!

GARY
VENTS HIS
FRUSTRATIONS
ON THE
CHALLENGES
OF THE
ROUGH SEAS!

ONLY ON HIS SURFBOARD
DO ALL HIS DOUBTS
DESERT HIM... AND HE
SPREADS HIS WINGS!

IT SEEMS AS IF A MOUNTAIN IS RISING FROM THE SEA! IT'S A WAVE SO TALL THAT GARY CAN'T EVEN SEE THE END OF IT!

~AAAGH!~

GARYUUUUU!

AN ENORMOUS WALL OF WATER COVERS GARY...

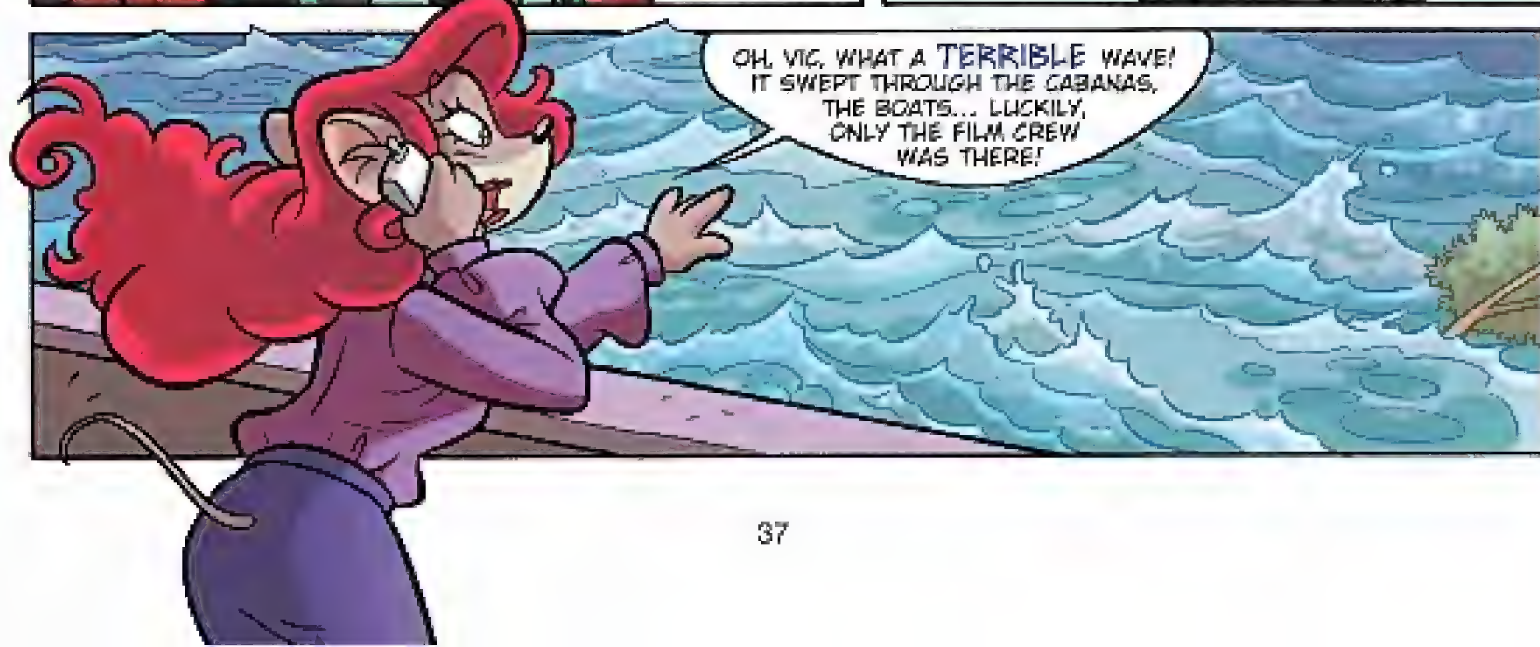
AHHH!

HEEEELP!

KK
AA
SHHH

... AND THEN ANYTHING IN ITS PATH!

WooooSHHH!



ALARM SPREADS
ACROSS ALL OF
Whale Island...

IN THE FACE OF AN EMERGENCY,
THEY ALL PUT ASIDE THEIR
DIFFERENCES AND RUSH TO
HELP WHOMEVER'S AT SEA!

TOOT TOOT TOOOOOOOT



EVEN THE BIG
MOUSEFORD
ACADEMY
MOTORBOAT JOINS
THE VESSELS,
WITH PROFESSOR
VAN KRAKEN,
VIOLET, COLETTE,
AND NICKY ON
BOARD...



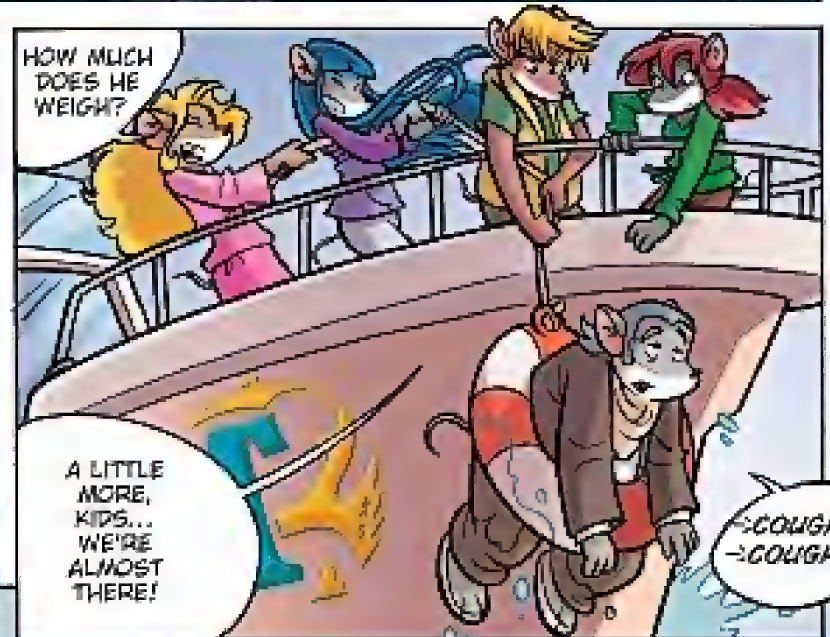
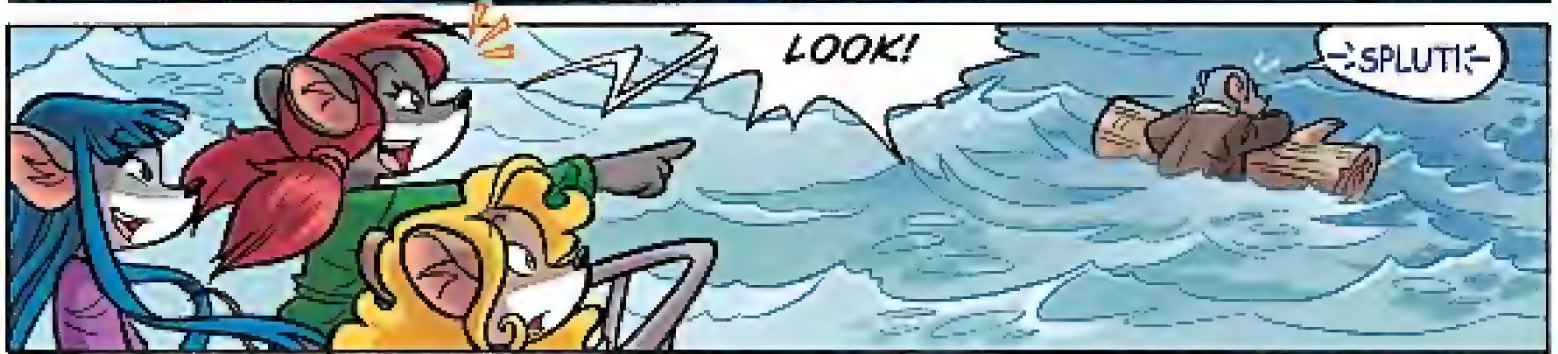
... AND VIC JOINS IN
ON HIS MOTORBOAT
TOO, WITH PAMELA AND
PAULINA ON BOARD!

NINE MICE ARE
MISSING FROM
WINDY ISLAND!
BUT WITH THE
ROUGH SEAS,
IT'S NOT EASY TO
LOCATE THEM!



DESPITE THE DIFFICULTY,
EVERYONE IN THE WATER
IS FISHED OUT, ONE
AFTER ANOTHER!







WE FOUND THE DIRECTOR! IS ANYONE ELSE MISSING?



ONLY GARY MOON!

OH, NO!



"GARY WAS SWAMPED BY THE FIRST WAVE! HE MUST'VE BEEN DRAGGED OUT MUCH FARTHER THAN THE OTHERS!"

"LET'S EXPAND OUR SEARCH! WE SHOULD COVER A BIGGER AREA!"



WE'LL FIND HIM, YOU'LL SEE! GARY'S A CHAMP. HE'S GOT MUCH MORE STAMINA THAN THE REST OF US!

AND BESIDES, LOOK... THE SQUALL'S PASSED THROUGH! IT'LL BE EASIER TO SPOT HIM!



YOU'RE RIGHT! HE'S NEAR HERE... I CAN FEEL IT!

STILL, THE HOURS
PASS AND THERE'S
NO TRACE OF
GARY...

THANKS, PAM!
IS THERE
STILL SOME
TEA IN THE
THERMOST?

IT'S THE LAST
CUP! I'M AFRAID
IT WON'T BE
HOT ANY
MORE
BUT...

?

TAKE A
LITTLE BREAK,
VIC! I CAN
DRIVE YOUR
MOTORBOAT!

TURN RIGHT, PAM!
I SAW SOMETHING
ORANGE... LIKE
GARY'S BOARD!

"YOU'RE RIGHT!
IT'S REALLY HIM!"

RUNNNNN

GARY!
GARY!

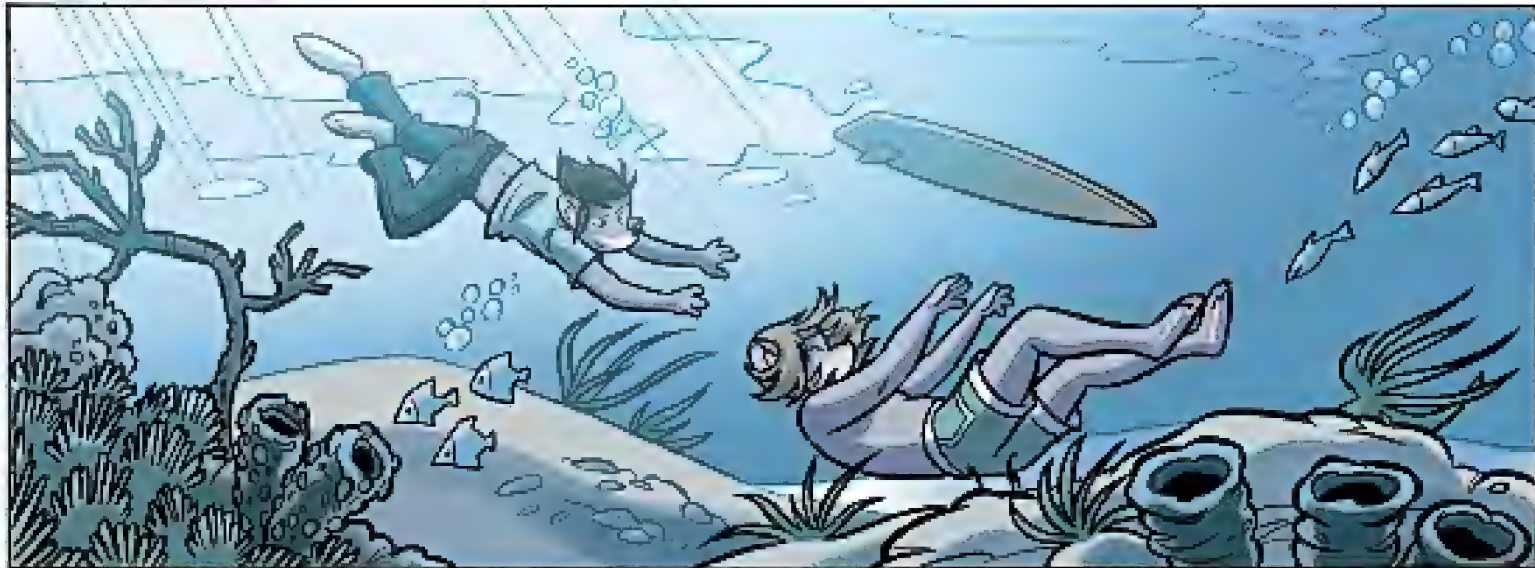
LOOK OUT, PAM!
YOU'RE MAKING THE
WAVES TOO BIG! THE
BOARD'S TILTING!

MUSTY
MOZZARELLA!
HE'S UNCONSCIOUS.

BE CAREFUL, VIC!
THE CURRENT'S
VERY STRONG
HERE!

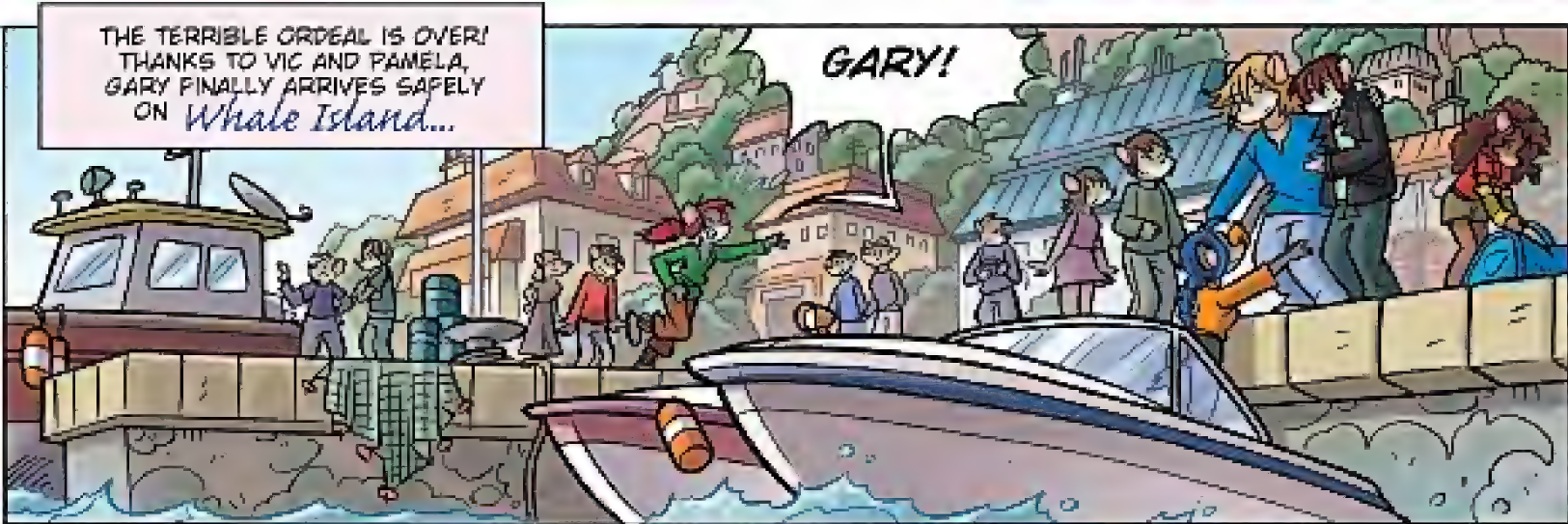
I'LL LET
THE OTHERS
KNOW WE
FOUND HIM!

SPLASH!



THE TERRIBLE ORDEAL IS OVER!
THANKS TO VIC AND PAMELA,
GARY FINALLY ARRIVES SAFELY
ON *Whale Island*...

GARY!





THE EVENT SHOULD HAVE BEEN A DISASTER FOR VISSIA, BUT INSTEAD...



NEWSPAPERS ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE TALKING ABOUT NOTHING ELSE!

ABOUT THE GIANT WAVE?



ABOUT THE **LOVE STORY** BETWEEN GARY AND HIS RESCUER!

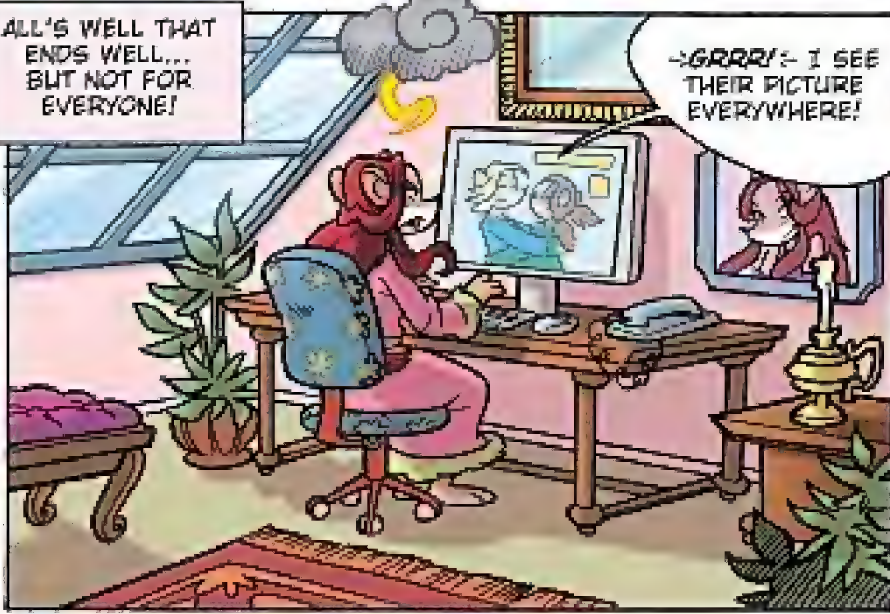
JACK CAMERON CULTIVATED THE JOURNALISTS PROPERLY! HE'S CREATED A WHISKERFUL OF A LOVE STORY!



EXCELLENT! THAT WAY, NO ONE WILL THINK ABOUT THE GIANT WAVE AND THE DANGER WE FACED!

I'LL ADVERTISE MY ISLAND AS A... LOVE NEST!

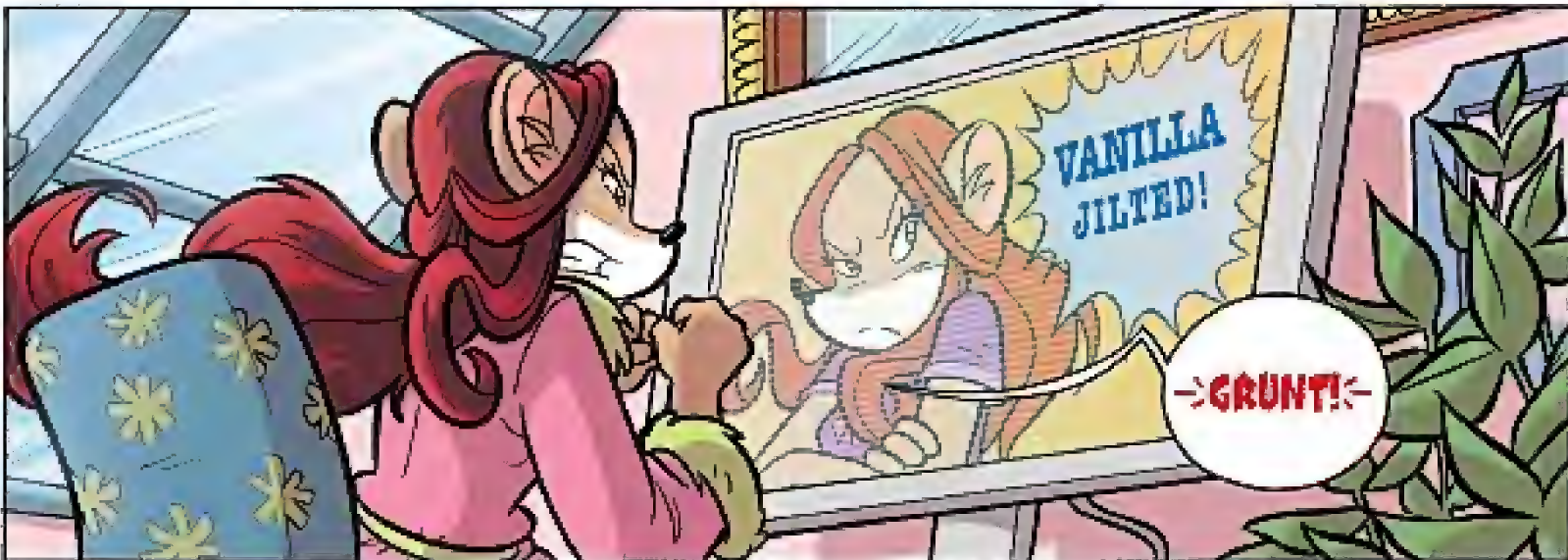
ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL... BUT NOT FOR EVERYONE!



-GRRR!- I SEE THEIR PICTURE EVERYWHERE!



GARY AND NICKY! NICKY AND GARY! CAN'T ANYONE TALK ABOUT ANYTHING ELSE?!



VANILLA JILTED!

-GRUNT!

VISSIA, HOWEVER, HADN'T TAKEN GARY MOON AND THE THEA SISTERS INTO ACCOUNT...

PLEASE CHANGE YOUR MIND, GARY! DON'T DO IT!

IT'S USELESS TO INSIST, JACK... I'VE ALREADY DECIDED!

THE CONTRACT WITH MS. DE VISSSEN MEANS NOTHING TO ME! AS FOR YOU... YOU'RE FIRED!

OH!

READY FOR THE PRESS CONFERENCE, GARY?

YES, OF COURSE, BUT...

...YOU'LL HELP ME, RIGHT? I'M A TOTAL WASHOUT WHEN I SPEAK IN PUBLIC!

THE THEA SISTERS AND PROFESSOR VAN KRAKEN WILL BE BY YOUR SIDE! AND MAYBE EVEN THEA STILTON, IF SHE GETS HERE IN TIME!

UM, HELLO, EVERYBODY! THANKS FOR COMING!

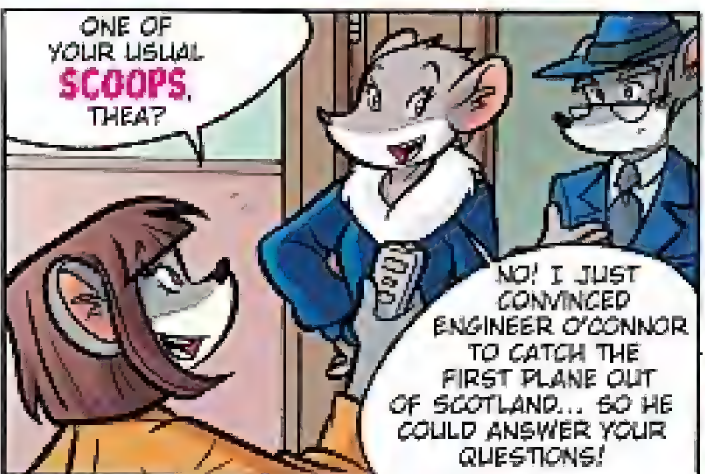
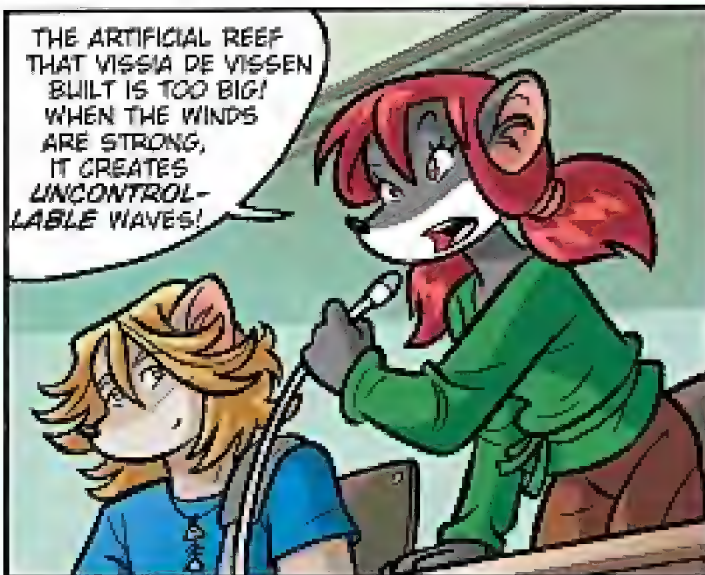
I'M NOT A GREAT SPEAKER, SO I'LL GET RIGHT TO THE POINT...

WHAT HAPPENED ON WINDY ISLAND WAS NOT AN ACCIDENT AT ALL!

IT WASN'T AN ACCIDENT?

WHAT WAS IT?! HOW DO YOU EXPLAIN THAT GIGANTIC WAVE?

IT WAS CAUSED BY THE ARTIFICIAL REEF! UM... MY FRIENDS WILL EXPLAIN IT BETTER THAN I CAN!



AND SO, AFTER A
FULL EXPLANATION
OF THE FACTS...

THEY'RE RIGHT!

THAT REEF IS
DANGEROUS!

I'LL WRITE AN
ARTICLE RIGHT AWAY!

THEN WE'RE IN
AGREEMENT! WE'LL PUT
YOUR STATEMENT ON
PRIME TIME TV!

YOU CAN'T DO
BETTER THAN THAT!

WE MUST INFORM THE WHALE
ISLAND RESIDENTS ABOUT THE
RISKS BEFORE THEY GO
TO VOTE!

THE **WAVE**
DIDN'T DEVASTATE
JUST VISSIA'S
ISLAND, BUT ALSO
ROMEO GUYMOUSE'S
REFERENDUM!

AND IF THAT WERE
TO HAPPEN HERE?

A WAVE LIKE
THAT WOULD BE
DISASTROUS!

YOU CAN'T PLAY
AROUND WITH THE SEA!
WE FISHERMEN KNOW
THAT VERY WELL!

I HEARD MS. DE VISSEN WILL
DEMOLISH HER REEF!

NOT DEMOLISH,
JUST
DIMINISH!

VOTING DAY
FINALLY
ARRIVES...

A MONSTROSITY LIKE
THAT NEAR DONKEY
ISLAND? NEVER,
NEVER!

YOU'RE
RIGHT! NO
ARTIFICIAL REEFS
FOR OUR
ISLAND!

DID I GET HERE
TOO LATE? HAVE THEY
ALREADY ANNOUNCED
THE RESULTS OF THE
REFERENDUM?

NOT YET...

SHHH!
HERE IT IS!

100%
NO

MY DEAR TV VIEWERS,
IT'S INCREDIBLE! THE
RESULTS WERE
UNANIMOUS!

EVERYONE
VOTED *NO*! NOT A
SINGLE CITIZEN OF
WHALE ISLAND VOTED
IN FAVOR OF
THE REEF!

HURRAY!

HURRAY!

WE DID IT!

MARY'S BURROS
ARE SAVED!

NO REEF!

HEY, IF EVERYONE VOTED
"NO," THAT MEANS...

... EVEN THE
MAYOR VOTED
AGAINST HIS OWN
PROPOSAL!

WHAT'D I TELL YOU?
UNDERNEATH IT ALL,
ROMEO ISN'T BAD!
HE REALIZED HE WAS
WRONG, IN THE END!

HA! HA!
HA!

HEE!
HEE!
HEE!

AND THEREFORE...
HURRAY FOR ROMEO
GUYMOUSE!

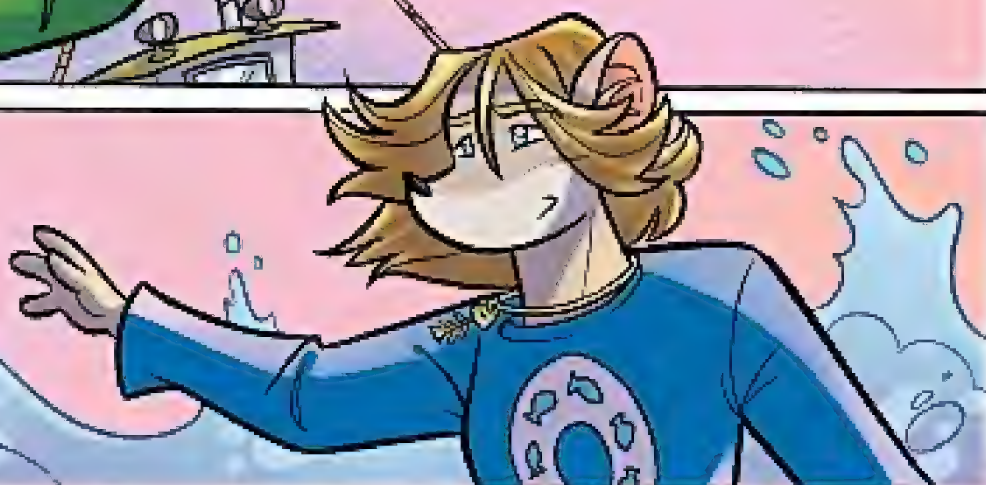
THE TIME HAS COME
FOR GARY TO LEAVE...



THEY'LL HAVE TO KEEP
IN TOUCH WITH EACH
OTHER LONG-DISTANCE...



BUT THEIR FEELINGS ARE
STRONG! PLUS, THEY'VE
DISCOVERED THEY HAVE
ANOTHER **POWERFUL**
BOND, IN ADDITION TO
THEIR LOVE FOR SURFING
AND AUSTRALIA...



... A COMMITMENT
TO PROTECTING
NATURE!



THE END

Watch Out For PAPERCUTZ™



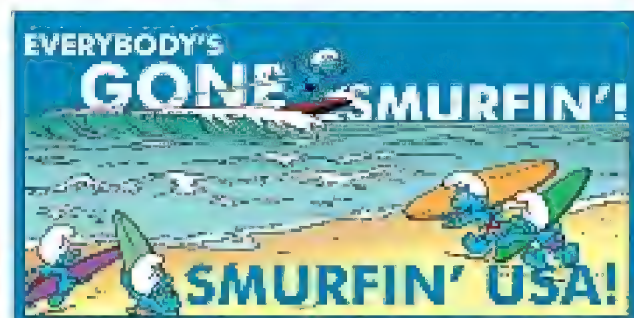
Surf's up!

Welcome to the fabulous, fast-paced fourth THEA STILTON graphic novel from Papercutz, the fantastic folks dedicated to publishing great graphic novels for all ages. I'm Salicrup, *Jim Salicrup* Editor-in-Chief and unofficial Whale Island lifeguard.

While I may be a fan of Brian Wilson (of the Beach Boys) and surf music in general, I've never been all that interested in actually surfing—other than surfing the net, that is. I even loved all those great teenagers-at-the-beach movies from the 50s and 60s, especially the ones with Don Rickles or Buster Keaton. But unlike our body-surfing, Coney Island-haunting, letterer and production whiz, Big Bird Zatrby, I simply prefer to stay on dry land, preferably, the non-sandy kind. I'm more like my fellow Editor-in-Chief Geronimo Stilton that way, although he proved to be better than he even imagined when he competed in the 100-meter Swim in GERONIMO STILTON #10 "Geronimo Stilton Saves the Olympics"...



Even the stars of another Papercutz title, love to surf..



Yes, even Smurfs surf! Just check out "Smurf Surfing" in THE SMURFS #17 "The Strange Awakening of Lazy Smurf"!

And as we now know, Nicky, Pamela, and Paulina of the Thea Sisters, and even Vanilla de Vissen, surf too. So, while the odds are that you'll never catch me hangin' ten, that doesn't mean I don't enjoy stories about surfing. And "Catching the Giant Wave" was certainly an enjoyable tale, featuring a whole lot of surfing fun, fun, fun under the sun.

So until THEA STILTON #5, I simply leave you with the two words Nicky said over the phone to her new sweetie, the

Australian surf champion, before he went to bed, "Goodnight, Moon!" (Sorry, I couldn't resist!)

Class dismissed!

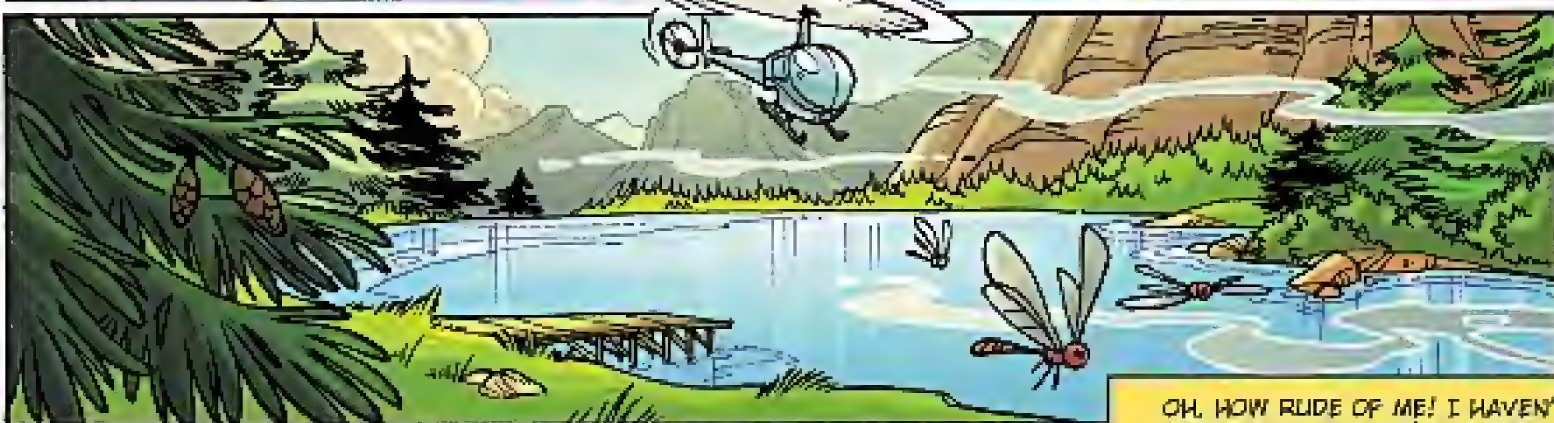
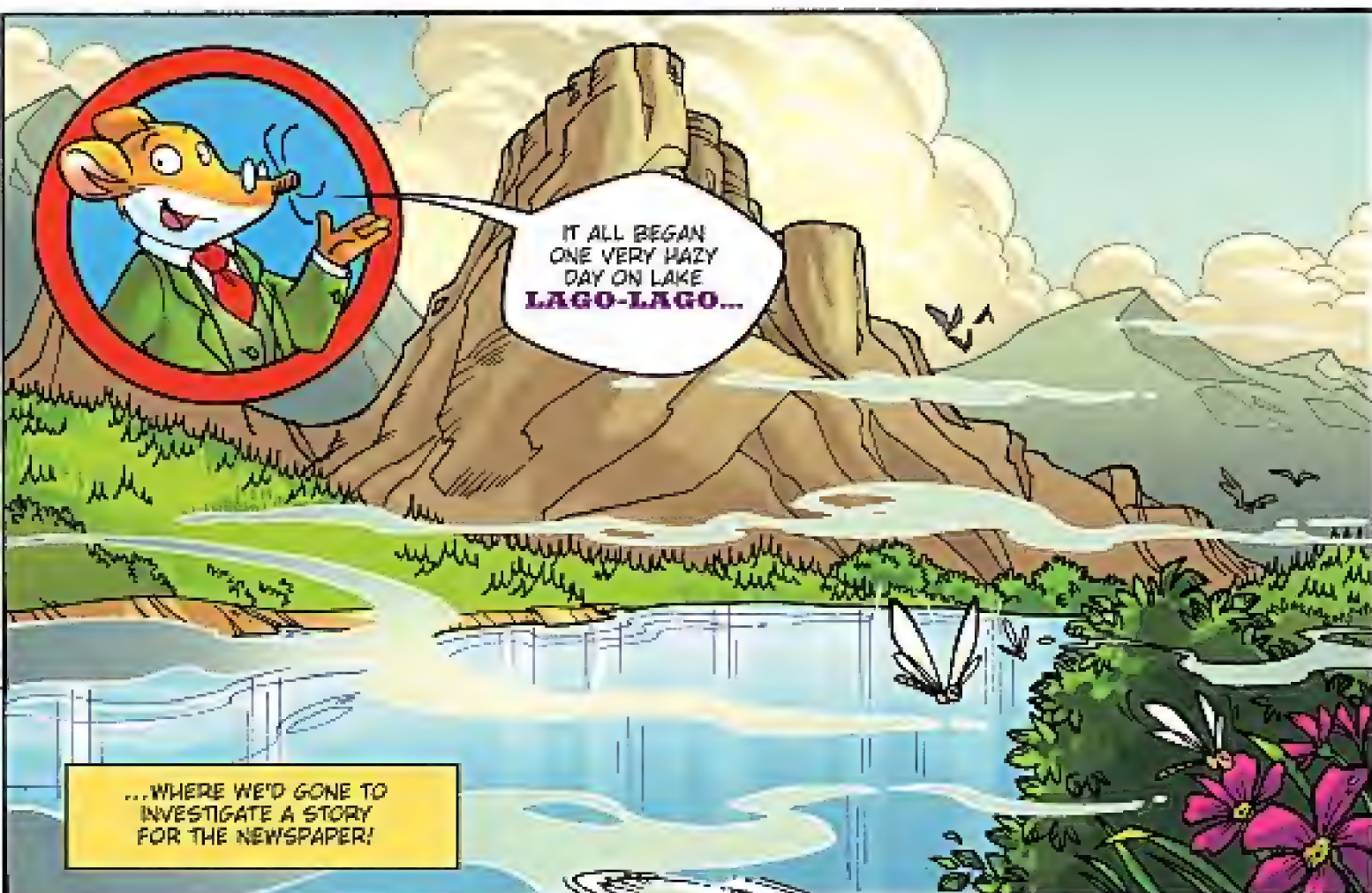
Thanks,

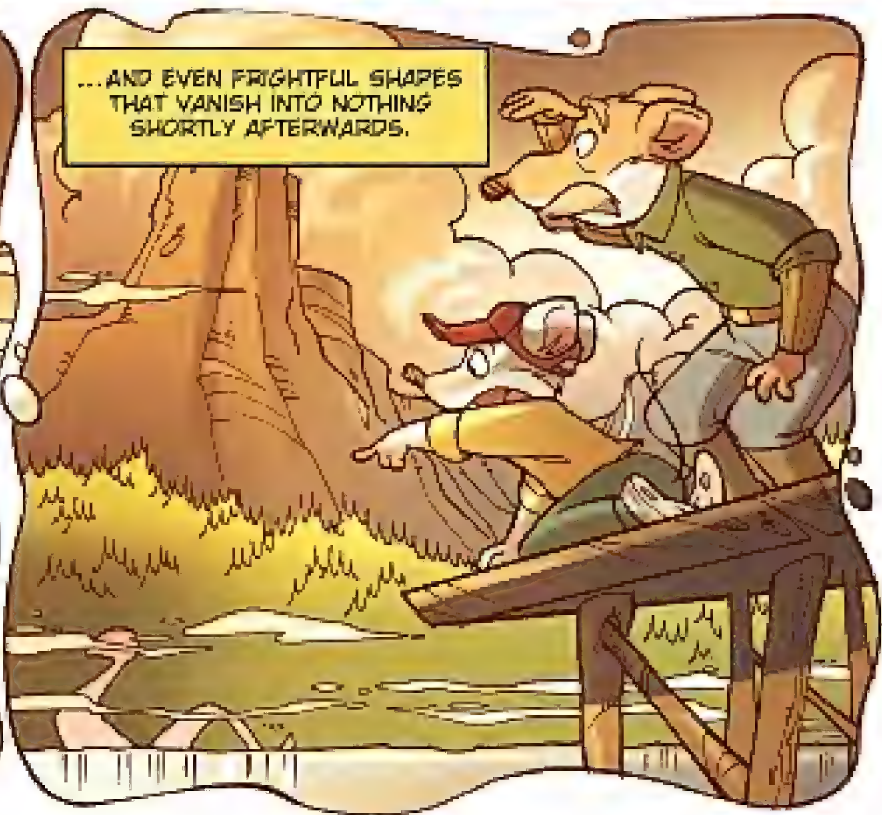
Jim

Stay in Touch!

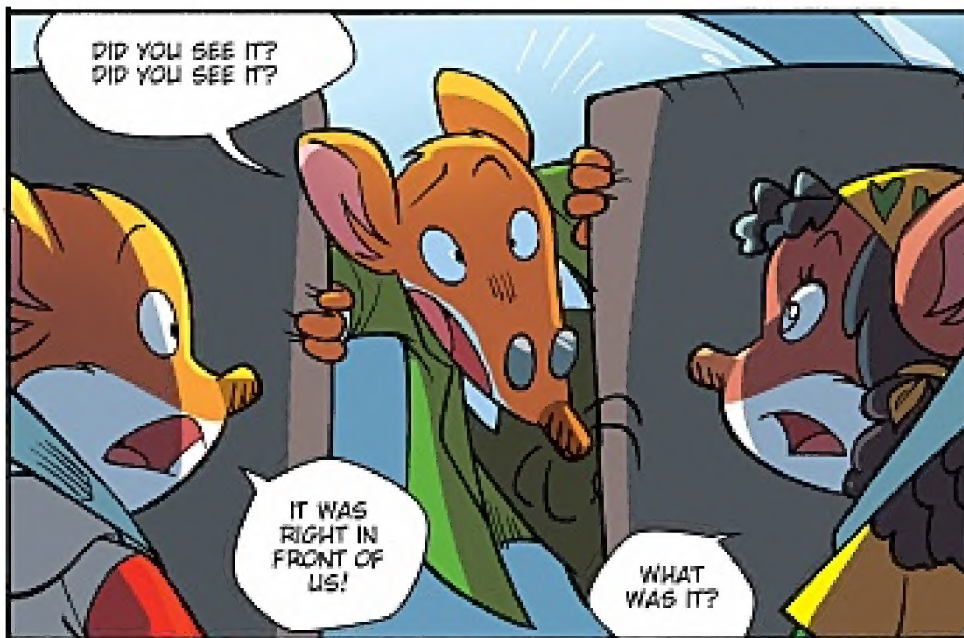
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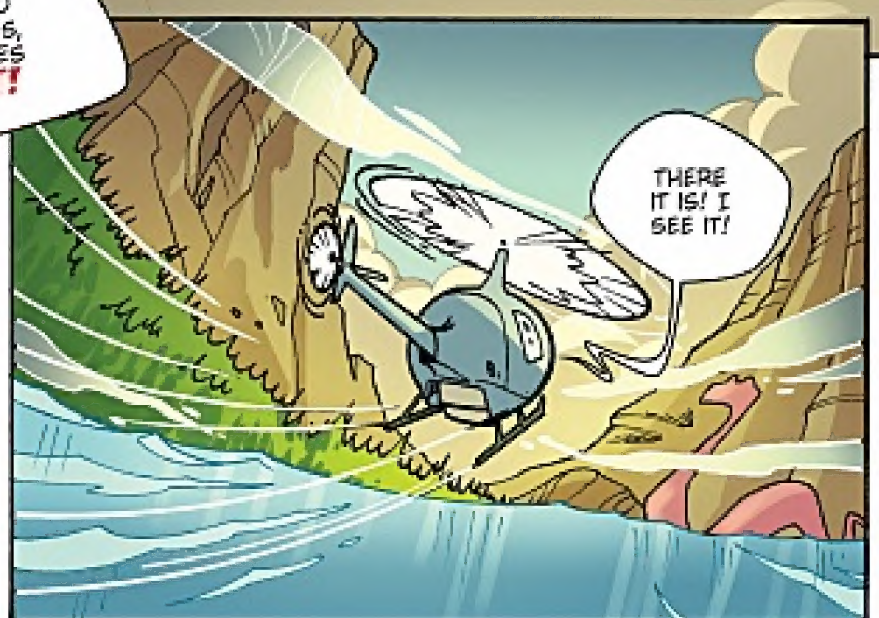
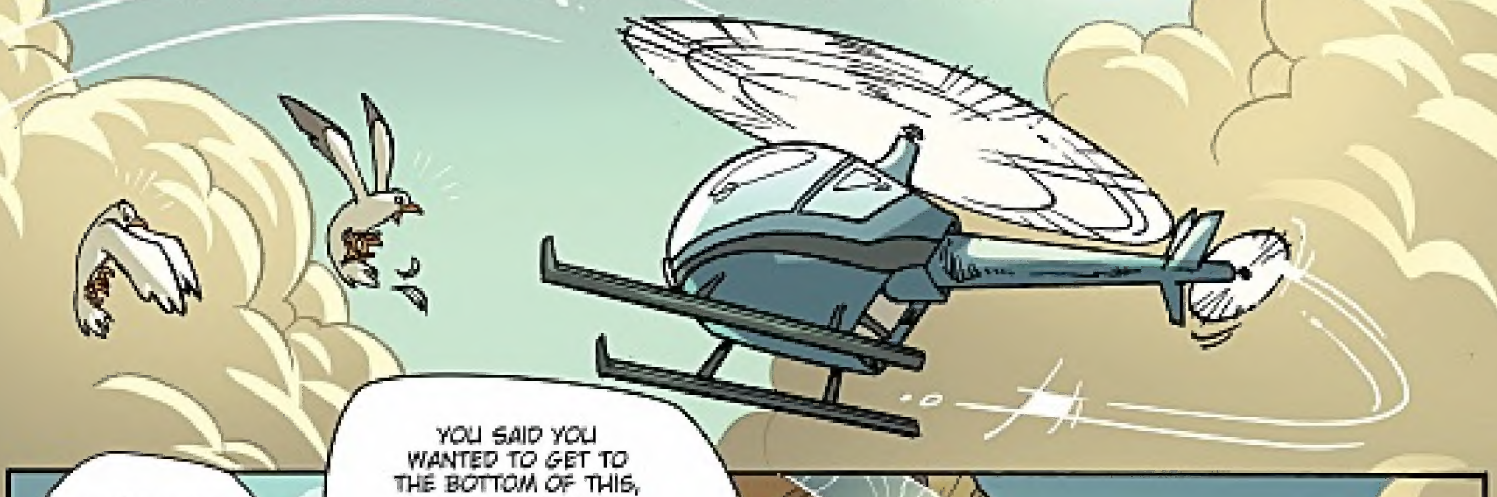


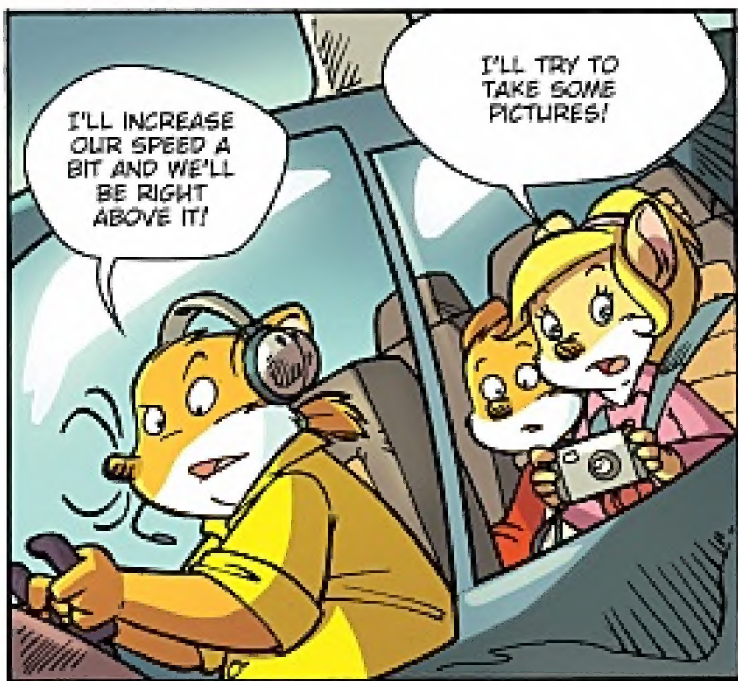






VRRMMMMMMMMM





Don't Miss GERONIMO STILTON #15 "All for Stilton, Stilton for All!"

LOOK OUT FOR THAT WAVE!

Everyone is talking about Windy Island's new surf center, even Nicky's hero, Australian surf champion Gary Moon! The artificial reef is supposed to create perfect waves. But the Thea Sisters have discovered a dangerous secret: even a surf champion can't face these giant waves! It's up to them to break the story before another reef is built off the shore of their beloved Donkey Beach.



The Thea sisters are five fun, lively students at Mouseford Academy on Whale Island, who want to be real, live journalists. Between classes and friendships, love and small fits of jealousy, they find life at the Academy to be a never-ending adventure!



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